

Application No. 09/497,590  
Amendment dated May 17, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of May 1, 2007

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the previously added paragraph following the paragraph bridging pages 25 and 26 with the following amended paragraph:

--Figure 42 is a perspective side view of a ~~Dual Extended Outer Sleeve having overlapping, hollow cylindrical tubes~~ one embodiment of the apparatus of the present invention used for use in installing interbody spinal implants having one or more flat sides.--.

Please replace the following two paragraphs bridging pages 67 and 68 with the following amended paragraphs.

-- As shown in FIG. 36, once the apparatus 1350 has been fully seated, the vertebrae V adjacent the interspace D to be fused are rigidly held via foot plate 1360 and the prongs 1364a-1364f. Thus, it is possible to remove either one, or if desired, both of the long distractors 1320 and 1322. The dual outer sleeve 1310 of apparatus 1350 has been described above for inserting two implants each having at least one flat side, may also, as shown in FIGS. 36-39, and 42, have extended portions 1380 and 1382 for intradiscal insertion which are capable of producing distraction as well as kyphosis or lordosis as previously described with such extensions extending in line with the lateral walls of the cylindrical tubes.

~~For example, as shown in Fig. 42, an apparatus 1350A can be provided. Apparatus 1350A includes the features of apparatus 1350, and also comprises extended portions 1380 and 1382.~~ As shown in FIG. 42, Extended extended portions 1380 and 1382 of apparatus 1350 are extensions of the overlapping, hollow cylindrical tubes 1352 and 1354. Extended portions 1380 and 1382 have a height that is greater at a point near foot plate 1360 and decreases in the direction away from foot plate 1360. Extended portions 1380 and 1382 are similar in shape and function to extended portions 920 and 922, 1220 and 1222.

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As such, extended portions 1380 and 1382 can be inserted between adjacent vertebrae to serve as intervertebral distractors, and can be used with or instead of the long distractors 1320 and 1322.—.